The Important Stuff!
We are celebrating the accomplishments of our Black Hawk County 4-H’ers at the Black Hawk County 4-H and FFA Fair and Iowa State Fair this month! As we all move into the school year, it is great to reflect on the opportunities for growth, education, and success that a 4-H summer offers our youth. The good news is, it does not stop there! Black Hawk County 4-H has a lot planned for the 2021-2022 4-H year. We are already looking forward to seeing our 4-H families on Sunday, October 3rd at the 4-H Family Fun Night to kick off National 4-H Week. Don’t forget to take the time to get youth enrolled or re-enrolled in 4-H, so no one misses out on the fun!

The Good Stuff!
Congratulations to Victoria Ulrich and Tommy Paulsen for being crowned the 2021 Black Hawk County 4-H Queen and King! Victoria is a member of the Cedar Falls Hustling Clovers. Tommy is also a member of the Cedar Falls Hustling Clovers, in Archery, and the Hudson FFA. They stayed very busy as County Council members, animal and static exhibitors, and by helping with shows and activities throughout fair!
Let's Talk About September!
Our new 4-H year kicks off on September 1st! Although it is a busy month with school work and activities ramping up, setting time aside for 4-H club meetings and events helps keep youth connected to each other and provides opportunities for them to explore and shine as individuals, as well as a part of a cohesive group. Along with the beginning of the 4-H year comes enrollment in 4HOnline. We have all the information you need in this newsletter. Speaking of information, your email, the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage or Facebook page can keep you updated on the latest news and updates! As always, if you have questions about 4-H enrollment or meetings, reach out to your leaders or 4-H staff. We are here to help!

Enrollment Time! 4-H enrollment is now open in 4HOnline. Enrollment for new members or re-enrollment for existing members is required for all 4-H youth to be covered by insurance as they attend 4-H meetings and activities. Do not forget that leaders and mentors must also enroll in 4HOnline! The $15 youth enrollment fee may be paid online during enrollment or by cash or check (only) through the Extension office after enrollment. Contact Judy at 319.234.6811 or jmuniz@iastate.edu if you need troubleshooting assistance, or have questions about accessing or using 4HOnline.

Need Some Help with 4HOnline? There are 4HOnline resources available to families on the Iowa 4-H website. For the Family Enrollment Guide, which assists families with the enrollment steps, please navigate here and scroll down to the link. This also covers adult enrollment procedures. (Leaders, please see this page and click on the arrow by ‘4HOnline Help Documents for Leaders’ to find the Club Leader Helpsheet.)

Shooting Sports Starts in October! Shooting Sports meets from 9:00-10:45am and Archery takes place from 10:45-11:30am in Chickasaw Hall at Hawkeye Community College the first Saturday of each month. Open to 4th graders and older. Interested in learning more? Take a look here!

This Is It! The deadline to apply for County Council is September 1st, at 4:30pm! County Council is open to any 4-H member that is in 9th through 12th grade. If you want to strengthen your leadership skills, strengthen the county 4-H program, fundraise for 4-H fair premiums, and plan 4-H events at the county level, apply now. Don’t forget, if you are a previous County Council member, you have to submit an application for the new year. Go to: https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5dQyDYCaHlu9JYY to complete an online application. Hard copies are available at the Extension Office.

We have answers to your questions!
Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, find us on Facebook, or call 319.234.6811!
Ready for Some Fun? The Black Hawk County 4-H Family Fun Night is a great way to kick off National 4-H Week and have a fun-tastic time with your family and friends! Admission is $2.50 for all youth and $5.00 for adults. This covers miniature golf, the jumping pillow, and a dinner of walking tacos, complements of Black Hawk County 4-H! Families can enjoy the go-karts, the batting cage, and the golf range for an additional fee of $5.00 each. Don’t forget to bring a friend or two to help celebrate National 4-H Week and share with them all the good things that happen when they join 4-H!

Due Soon: Record Books! Did you know that keeping records is an important life skill? Record books help 4-H’ers set goals, complete tasks, and evaluate how successful they were in meeting their goals. Now is the time to put the finishing touches on your record books, 4H’ers! They are due at the Extension office on Tuesday, October 5th. Please be sure to get them turned in to your club leaders as soon as you can. For tips and information about assembly, awards and judging, please see this helpful resource, Record Book Forms. Clover Kids can practice keeping records, too! Navigate here!

No Travel Required! Black Hawk County 4-H has some virtual events lined up for National 4-H Week! Join Sarah to play 4-H Bingo on Monday, October 4th at 6pm and get a chance at some fun prizes. There is more virtual fun on Tuesday, October 5th at 6pm! Both events take place on Zoom! Register in advance here.

Attention 4-H Leaders! It is time for the 2021-2022 Annual Leaders’ Training. This is for leaders that have already completed New Volunteer Training. The training will take place on Tuesday, October 5th from 6:00-8:00pm at the Extension office. A light dinner will be served. Please mark your calendars!

THRIVE Mindfulness Retreat. Iowa 4-H is offering a weekend experience that will present a fun, engaging, and reflective time to learn more about the benefits of mindfulness, connecting with nature, and exploring camp activities. Registration deadline is Friday, September 24th. $25 per person. Financial assistance is available. Click here to register.

Searching for Something? Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, find us on Facebook, or call 319.234.6811!
Must ♥ Dogs...We are excited to announce a series of meetings for the Black Hawk County 4-H Dog Project! Any 4-H’er that is interested in learning more about their canine BFFs, or dogs in general, is welcome to join. 4-H’ers do not need to have a dog or plan to attend dog obedience next year. These meetings are a chance to explore all the cool things about dogs and why people love them. The first meeting will be on Monday, October 11th from 5:30-6:30pm at the Extension office. More details to come through email and on Black Hawk County 4-H social media!

Save the Date! The Black Hawk County 4-H Awards Banquet will be Sunday, November 21st from 2:00-4:00pm at The Pavilion on the National Cattle Congress grounds in Waterloo.

Congratulations! Black Hawk County 4-H is pleased that several 4-H volunteers received well-deserved recognition this summer! In July, Louis Beck and Carolyn Clubine were awarded the Iowa Governor’s Award for Years of Service. Both of them are long-time superintendents and have served in many 4-H volunteer roles in Black Hawk County. Louis was recognized for 40 years of service and Carolyn for 35 years.

Loretta and Steve Doepke were also honored for their contributions to Black Hawk County 4-H by their induction into the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame in August. Please see this link for the story of their life-long commitment to 4-H!

During the 2021 Iowa State Fair, Nancy Schmitz was honored as the 4-H Alum of the day by the Iowa 4-H Foundation on August 18th. Take a look at that fan club! :) 

Like Robotics? We are looking for 8th grade and older robotics-minded youth to join our 4-H FTC (First Tech Challenge) Robotic’s team! Meetings are on Tuesday evenings and Saturday morning in Dunkerton. The team prepares for several competitions! If interested please call 319.234.6811.

We Can Help!
Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, find us on Facebook, or call 319.234.6811!
All Creatures Great and Small! The Black Hawk County 4-H Fair had them all! View the video recap, photos, and list of Black Hawk County 4-H achievements on the Black Hawk County Extension website. There are even more pictures and videos on the Black Hawk County 4-H Facebook page!

Thank You! Black Hawk County 4-H was happy to have Kacie Herring and Meg Durbahn on board this summer! Kacie was our 4-H Fair Assistant and Meg was our Americorps STEM Assistant. We will miss their help and smiles around here!

As part of its mission to serve all Iowans, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will provide reasonable accommodations to its “policies, practices, or procedures” when the accommodations are necessary to provide equal access to programming to participants with a qualifying disability. It will also provide auxiliary aids and services when they are necessary to provide equal access to participation.

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